Jones called the meeting to order with the following members present: Borland, Brown, Champlin, Collins, Delen, Depperschmidt, Doust, Ekman, Gerkin, Johnson, Kak, Lewis, Lloyd, McCann, Miller, Nabar, Oberhelman, Perea-Fox, Richards, Siddons, Tenorio, VanOverbeke, Vogel, Wanger and Yates.

Also present: Allen, M., Bastani, S., Hargis, B., Lavine, B., Link, S., Loeffert, J., Lowe, K., Martin, M., Sandefur, G., Shutt, G., Smith, B., Taber, C., Talley, M., Tucker, S., Weaver, J., and Wray, K.

Absent: Clarke, Peek, Royer and Sheehan.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Special Reports………………………………………………………………………….....

Mason Martin – CowboyThon..………………………………………………….....

Remarks and Comments – President Hargis………………………………...

Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations and other Vice Presidents……….

Reports of Liaison Representatives ………………………………………………………..

SAC ………………………………………………………………………………...

Wellness Center…………………………………………………………………….

AAUP …………………...………………………………………………………….

Women’s Faculty Council………………………………………………………….

Graduate Faculty………..…………………………………………………………..

Reports of Standing Committees …………………………………………………………..

Academic Standards and Policies ………………………………………………….

Athletics ……………………………………………………………………………

Budget ……………………………………………………………………………...

Campus Facilities, Safety and Security ……………………………………………

Diversity……………………………………………………………………………

Faculty ……………………………………………………………………………..

Long-Range Planning and Information Technology ………………………………

Research ……………………………………………………………………………

Retirement and Fringe Benefits ……………………………………………………

Rules and Procedures ………………………………………………………………

Student Affairs and Learning Resources …………………………………………..

Jones called the meeting to order and asked everyone present to sign the roll call as it is circulating the room. Jones stated that it is election day and asked everyone to make sure and vote this afternoon. Jones believes this will be a short meeting so everyone should have time to go vote. Jones stated that everyone should have received a copy of the minutes from last month. Jones asked for a motion to approve them as presented. VanOverbeke moved and Perea-Fox second. Motion passed. Jones asked for approval of today’s agenda. McCann moved and VanOverbeke second. Motion passed.

**Special Reports:**

**A. Mason Martin - CowboyThon**

Martin thanked the committee and stated that Lefan was unable to attend today’s meeting. Martin and LeFan are the co-directors of Alumni and Faculty Relations for CowboyThon. Their goal is to be one-on-one impactful to faculty and alumni for their philanthropic causes because they directly impact families in Oklahoma.

Martin presented the following PowerPoint presentation to the council members:



CowboyThon is benefactor of The Children’s Miracle Network Hospital Foundation and is a partner with the Dance Marathon network. It was started in 1991 at Iowa State. It raised $27 million in the past year for The Children’s Hospital Foundation. CowboyThon is the OSU branch of this group. The founding principal of the CowboyThon is FTK – For The Kids. There are fundraising events all year long. The CowboyThon has been around for 7 years and in that time have raised over $500,000 for the Children’s Hospital Foundation. Martin stated that there is a spot on their website specifically for faculty and staff to get information and donate. Martin also stated that a CowboyThon representative would be happy to give a short presentation to classes. Martin stated that this year’s goal is to have 2,000 dancers at their main event which is in February. What this means is that 2,000 people will come out to hangout, dance, mingle with Miracle Network kids for twelve hours. Martin asked the members present to contact either himself or Lefan for more information. Martin opened the floor for questions. Martin stated that on November 17th in suite 1600 at the Union from 11:00- 1:00 there will be a faculty silent auction which features baskets for people to bid on. There will be free food and information about CowboyThon.

**Remarks and Comments – President Hargis:**

Hargis stated that it is too early to be getting into any budget information. Hargis stated that administration is working very seriously on retention. OSU is stuck at 81%. This is important because students continue to move toward their valuable college degree. Hargis stated that freshman mid-term grades are critical for students who may be struggling and to get them the assistance they need. Hargis stated that the administration is very committed to fixing this problem.

Hargis stated that Homecoming was a great experience this year. Hargis is pleased that there were no incidents like the tragedy of last year.

Hargis stated that Graduation is December 10th and that Steve Taylor will be the commencement speaker. He’s an OSU grad and retiring judge.

**Report of Status of Council Recommendations:**

**President Hargis, Provost Sandefur, and/or Vice Presidents**

Sandefur stated that the Tuition Waiver for Dependents of OSU Faculty and Staff will go into effect Fall of 2017.

Sandefur stated the following recommendations are pending:

16-05-01-LRPIT: Appropriate Use Policy

16-05-01-Research: Support and Promotion of Undergraduate Research at OSU. Instruction Council and the Deans Council has some suggested changes that were big enough that this has been returned to Faculty Council to review. Sandefur doesn’t believe there is anything controversial and it is appropriate to send it back to Faculty Council for review.

16-10-01-Faculty: Clarification of Extension Specialists, Research Associate and Teaching Associate Titles. Recommended modifications will be considered by the Council of Deans and incorporated in draft guidelines being developed for the new faculty titles.

**Vice President Joe Weaver:**

Weaver stated that Provost Sandefur set up this fall a leadership series for department heads and through this the idea surfaced that Academic Departments suggested that OSU set up an Advisory Committee to help with processes. The administration has formed this committee which consists of department heads and they will start meeting on Monday, November 21st at 3:00. Every college will be represented and they will discuss various processes. Weaver is looking forward to getting their perspective.

**Report of Liaison Representatives:**

A. Staff Advisory Council – Karissa Lowe

The Homecoming Basket drawing was a success. Staff Council raised $535 for the Staff Scholarship Fund. The winner of the basket was an International Student from Egypt named Ahmed El Belasy. Pictures were taken with President Hargis and posted on the SAC Facebook page. Ahmed and his wife and two children enjoyed their first football game. He was most excited by having his picture taken with the President and taking the autographed football back to Egypt to show off to his family and friends. The announcement will be in the next SAC monthly newsletter.

The SAC/American Red Cross Blood drive was held as scheduled on Friday, November 4th.

Just a reminder that the pickup date for the Harvest II Food Drive will be November 11th at the Student Union Plaza area. Boxes are placed around campus until then. Please contact Sarah Axtell, Events Committee Chair for more information.

All Committees are busy with various projects and upcoming event:

* Events Committee is working on Staff Celebration Day planning.
* Rules and Procedures Committees working to get ratification change election out to the Staff.
* Policy, Benefit and Budget Committee is researching other ways to recognize Outstanding Staff other than annually with the Distinguished Service Awards.
* Awards and Recognition Committee working on the Staff Distinguished Service Awards selection for 2016.
* Communications Committee continues to produce a monthly Staff Advisory Council Newsletter and Facebook page.

B. Wellness Center – Mary Talley



1. AAUP – Barry Lavine

The OSU-AAUP Chapter will have its annual meeting on Thursday, November 10 at 4:00PM in PS-121 to discuss several matters of interest to faculty including faculty governance at OSU, provost forum about clinical faculty, chapter report for the Oklahoma AAUP State Chapter, potential future plans and upcoming meetings. All OSU-Stillwater faculty and administrators (Chairs, Deans, Vice Presidents) are invited to attend.

D. Women’s Faculty Council – Steph Link

The Women Faculty Council members meeting was on October 24, 2016. Dr.  Jean Van Delinder spoke at this meeting specifically on NSF funding on "ADVANCE" and how WFC can help with the next submission of ADVANCE to NSF in 2018. A primary takeaway from this discussion is the idea that a program is not meant to fix women or to make them fit into the current system, but to fix the institutional behavior that contributes to underrepresentation of women and minorities. This is particularly important in STEM where we want more women as role models for female students and young faculty, also to rectify imbalance at administrative levels. *Therefore, the WFC is seeking collaborators from across the university and all departments in order to establish relationships and understand how to transform our institution to benefit all employees and all genders*.

The Women Faculty Council Officers (Smita Mohanty, Chair; Sarah Milligan, Vice Chair; Tracy Quan, Secretary/treasurer met on November 2, 2016 to make plans for the events to be hosted by WFC in spring of 2017. Part of the discussion was about a women’s research database/faculty research database. There is an institutional repository of all faculty called ShareOK (<https://shareok.org>) where people can put their own information in the institutional repository in addition to creating profiles with ORCID-IDs. *We want to encourage faculty to do this. Our hopes for the future are to list information about research and skills so that it could be used to identify people with certain interests and specialties for panels, committees, etc. If you have any thoughts/ideas, please contact us.*

Next meeting is November 28th from 4-5pm in the first floor Event Room*.*Vice President of Research-Dr. Kenneth Sewell has accepted WFC invitation to talk. His talk will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A during which we hope to brainstorm some actionable items that have short- and long-term impacts on our community here at OSU.

*For questions/comments, please contact Smita Mohanty at*[*smita.mohanty@okstate.edu*](mailto:smita.mohanty@okstate.edu)*.*

1. Graduate Council – Brenda Smith

Council reviewed and approved recommendations from the Academic Program Committee that included: 1) the deletion of options in Aviation and Space (MS in Interdisciplinary Science) and in College Interdisciplinary (EDD in Applied Educational Science); 2) the deletion of a graduate certificate program in Forensic Document Examination; 3) the addition of options in Language, Literacy and Culture (PhD in Education) and in Gifted and Talented Education (MS in Teaching, Learning, and Leadership).

Council reviewed and approved the Graduate College admission guideline which states, “For admission without qualification, a GPA of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) or the equivalent is expected in undergraduate coursework or a 3.0 in any graduate work already completed. Graduate programs may petition the Graduate College on behalf of an applicant for an exception.”

The Council discussed feedback received on the proposed master’s degree completion plans. It was determined that further consideration of the implications of such changes is needed prior to moving forward.

The new format for the fall Subject Matter Group meeting held on October 19th seemed to work well with a few minor modifications needed for the spring. Thank you to everyone who participated!

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Academic Standards and Policies: David Oberhelman – Update**

Recommendation: Exempting Eight-Week Courses from Six-Week Grade Submission

Oberhelman stated that this is not technically a policy change as much as a procedural change. The committee has been discussing the six-week grade requirement for instructors of eight-week classes (the 1000 and 2000 level designation) for a while. Oberhelman stated that with Banner, faculty members can enter final grades at week eight. What the ASP committee is recommending is that the procedural requirement that instructors enter six-week grades and then two weeks later enter final grades be waived. Oberhelman stated that in the past faculty couldn’t enter the final grade until the end of the semester. Oberhelman stated that with upgrades to Banner next semester (Dr. Taber anticipates this upgrade any day/month) students will be able to view their grades instantly. Taber stated that her office can make this happen. Jones asked for discussion. Seeing none asked for a vote. Motion passed.

**Athletics: Tom Royer – No Report**

**Budget: Glenn Brown – No Report**

**Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Erik Ekman – Update**

Ekman stated that the committee met Monday to review issues that have been brought to their attention by faculty and staff. One is lighting around Theta Pond and parking. Ekman said if anyone is feeling unsafe or unsecure, please let the committee know so they can address it. Jones asked when Old Farm Road will be open again? Ekman is not sure but will find out. Oberhelman stated that he has been getting questions about earthquake safety again in light of the recent one in Cushing. Weaver stated that there is a procedure in place with Facilities Management. If there is an earthquake within 50 miles of Stillwater that is 5.0 or greater, it triggers a process for campus/building assessment. Perea-Fox asked if there will be another training session on how to react to a person with a gun. Ekman stated that committee will look into this and see what they can do. Jones believes that Sergeant Hart is the one who does the training. Jones stated they are willing to come out and do training/presentations for departments/groups.

**Diversity: Louise Siddons – No Report**

**Faculty: Pamela Lloyd – No Report**

**Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Jason Vogel - No Report**

**Research: Andrew Doust – No Report**

**Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Chris Richards - No Report**

**Rules and Procedures: Deb VanOverbeke – No Report**

**Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Gina Peek - No Report**

**Old Business – None**

**New Business – VanOverbeke**

VanOverbeke reminded everyone that the Awards Convocation is November 30th at 3:30 in Click Hall at the Alumni Center. She encouraged everyone to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in **412 Student Union, Council Room.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb VanOverbeke, Secretary